

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 7, 2005

S. 485 National Geologic Mapping Reauthorization Act of 2005

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on September 28, 2005

SUMMARY

S. 485 would reauthorize the national geologic mapping program and extend current deadlines for plans, reports, and other requirements established by the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992. The bill would authorize appropriations for the program at the 2005 authorized level of \$64 million for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010. (Under current law, authorizations of appropriations for the program expired at the end of fiscal year 2005.) For 2006, \$25 million has already been appropriated for this program. The geologic mapping program is carried out jointly by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and state geological authorities. Under this program, federal and state geologists are developing a comprehensive geological map of the United States and a related database of environmental and scientific information.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that carrying out the 1992 act, as amended by S. 485, would cost \$2 million in fiscal year 2006 and \$229 million over the 2006-2010 period. (We estimate that an additional \$66 million would be spent after 2010.) Enacting this bill would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

S. 485 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 485 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that the entire amounts authorized for the mapping program will be

appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
SPENDING	G SUBJECT	TO APPRO	PRIATION	1		
Spending Under Current Law for the						
National Geologic Mapping Program						
Budget Authority ^a	25	25	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	25	19	8	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	39	64	64	64	64
Estimated Outlays	0	2	35	64	64	64
Spending Under S. 485 for the National						
Geologic Mapping Program						
Authorization Level ^a	25	64	64	64	64	64
Estimated Outlays	25	21	43	64	64	64

a. The 2005 and 2006 levels are the amounts appropriated to the USGS for those years under the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 485 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On May 24, 2005, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 2362, the National Geologic Mapping Reauthorization Act of 2005, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 18, 2005. The two versions of the legislation are very similar. The cost estimate for S. 485 reflects the 2006 appropriation for this program.

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